

# FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

OFFICE OF FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



MITCHELL E. DANIELS, JR., GOVERNOR  
PAULA PARKER-SAWYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Dear Friday Night Facts Readers:*

*We have been very busy the last 30 days preparing for the Regional Conference of the White House Office of Faith –Based and Community Initiatives. It has been exciting and exhausting checking everything twice, confirming speakers, and changing agendas. But...the conference is ready to go and 1,170 people will join my staff and the White House staff on Monday and Tuesday here in Indianapolis. If you did not register, some limited walk-in registrations will be accommodated. We hope to see you on Monday morning.*

*On another note, we have also been working on the establishment of a U. S. Dream Academy site in Indianapolis. The U. S. Dream Academy is an after-school program that provides online academic tutoring, character building and dream building for children whose parents are or have recently been incarcerated or students who are falling behind academically. The founder of the U. S. Dream Academy graciously agreed to not only sing for the White House Conference on Tuesday morning but also to perform in a benefit concert on Tuesday evening. The John Marshall Middle School Choir, Kate LaMont Strodman, and the Eastern Star Church Choir will prepare the audience with a few selections before Wintley Phipps, founder of the U. S. Dream Academy, takes the stage. The evening is guaranteed to be inspirational and joyful. After you vote on Tuesday, come and join us if you live close to Indianapolis. We hope to see you then.*



**November 6, 2007  
At 7PM**

John Marshall Middle  
School Auditorium  
10101 E 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46235

INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRESENTS

## A BENEFIT CONCERT

Two-time Grammy Award-nominated  
gospel and inspirational singer

### Wintley Phipps

JMMS Choir

Kate Strodman

Eastern Star Choir

ADMISSION IS FREE

All proceeds benefit the  
**Dream Academy Learning Center at  
IPS John Marshall Middle School**

The U.S. Dream Academy is a national after-school program that empowers young people to fulfill their potential through skill-building, character-building and dream-building activities. We focus our efforts on young people who are impacted by parental incarceration and the devastating effects of crime in their communities.

**Call 317-234-4236 for additional information**



In light of the heightened awareness regarding several cases of MRSA (Methicillin-resistant *Staph aureus*) infections in Indiana, state health officials want to take this opportunity to educate Hoosiers on proper prevention methods. MRSA is not a new disease and has been present in Indiana for years. It is a type of bacteria which has developed resistance to several antibiotics and thus making it more difficult to treat. Most MRSA infections are skin infections, however, and are able to be treated with appropriate antibiotics. Rarely, if MRSA enters the blood stream or a major body

organ, it can produce a serious and even fatal infection.

MRSA can be spread as a result of skin-to-skin contact, openings in the skin, contaminated surfaces, and poor hygiene. To help decrease incidence of MRSA infections, health officials are recommending the following:

- ◆ Practice frequent and appropriate hand hygiene.
- ◆ Do not share personal hygiene items such as soap, towels, etc.
- ◆ Practice prompt, effective wound care by washing thoroughly with soap and hot water. Routinely clean and sanitize areas where there is frequent direct skin contact.
- ◆ See your health care provider immediately if you notice red, swollen, or painful wounds or skin breaks.
- ◆ Take antibiotics responsibly if prescribed.

For more information on MRSA, go to [www.statehealth.in.gov](http://www.statehealth.in.gov)



### Fall back to Sleep

For those Indiana counties who observe Daylight Saving Time, it's time to get our hour back! Don't forget to set your clocks **back** one hour before you go to bed Saturday evening (11/3). Sweet dreams!

### Congratulations to Women's Fund of Central Indiana

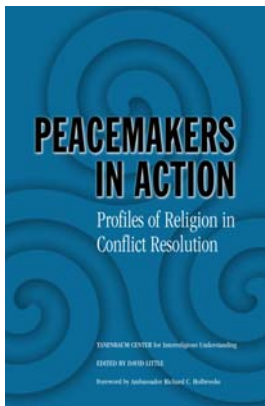
Ever since their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration last year, they have been working to raise \$1 million to get the full benefit of a matching grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. They achieved their goal in August! The contribution that put them at the \$1 million mark was a \$300,000 gift from Ruth Lilly Philanthropic Foundation – their first-ever contribution to Women's Fund and a nice endorsement for what Women's Fund is accomplishing. For more information about the Women's Fund of Central Indiana, visit <http://www.cicf.org/page26569.cfm> or contact them at 317-634-2423.



Just because we don't have any training opportunities listed doesn't mean there aren't any!  
Please visit the OFBCI website at <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2414.htm>

## DOWNLOAD THE 2007-2008 IEARN PROJECT BOOK

iEARN is a non-profit network that supports over 20,000 teachers and 2 million youth in more than 120 countries to collaborate through a global telecommunications network on projects designed to make a difference in the world. The 2007-2008 Project Book is available online and is a wealth of information for teachers seeking to incorporate global projects and online collaborations into their classroom. To learn more, visit <http://www.earn.org/projects/projectbook.html>



So often, when we read about conflicts around the world, religious differences and beliefs are in many cases at the heart of where conflict has begun. It is therefore particularly refreshing to tell you about a new publication from the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding – a publication that shows how men and women of religion are quickly becoming part of the solution to conflict!

Tanenbaum's *Peacemakers in Action: Profiles of Religion in Conflict Resolution*, edited by Dr. David Little, (2007, New York: Cambridge University Press) is an exciting new book that tells the remarkable true stories of 16 religiously motivated grassroots activists, men and women who take grave risks to reduce violence and build peace in areas of armed conflict. Tanenbaum makes these men and women real for the reader, while providing the type of critical analysis that allows us to recognize, study and ultimately emulate their effective peacemaking techniques.

The Tanenbaum *Peacemakers* are powerful—yet underutilized—actors in Track II (citizen) diplomacy. As such, this book contains timely information for all people interested in religion, international affairs and diplomacy. In the face of so much tension and conflict around the world, *Peacemakers in Action* provides critical lessons and much-needed hope for each of us.

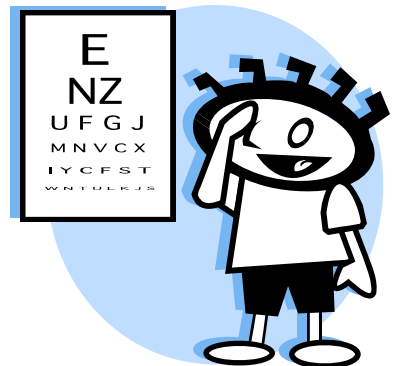
Tanenbaum has also created a study guide that can be used by faith leaders to accompany the book. This resource is a wonderful tool for educators but can also be used by Book Groups to stimulate discussion on what we can learn from the *Peacemakers'* experiences. You can download the study guide for free at [www.tanenbaum.org/Study\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.tanenbaum.org/Study_Guide.pdf).

## Prevent Blindness Indiana seeks volunteer vision screeners

Volunteers are needed to help Rx for Indiana partner Prevent Blindness Indiana (PBI) at vision screenings for children and adults in Marion and surrounding counties, held at schools, health fairs and businesses. Volunteers will learn how to screen children and adults for potential vision impairments using protocols set by Prevent Blindness America. Adults are generally screened using the Optec 5000, which checks visual acuity, and the FDT, which checks for glaucoma; children are screened using Snellen E and symbols charts which check visual acuity, and with a stereopsis kit, which checks eye muscle balance.

The next vision screening training at PBI will be Saturday Nov. 17, with the adult vision screening training conducted from 10 a.m. to noon and the children's vision screening training from 1 to 2:30 p.m. To register, e-mail [info@pbeye.org](mailto:info@pbeye.org). Individuals can be trained to screen children and/or adults. Lunch will be on your own with an hour break between sessions.

PBI offers free training sessions. If your group is interested in scheduling a training session, e-mail [info@pbeye.org](mailto:info@pbeye.org) or call Phil Rainey, Prevent Blindness Indiana programs manager, at (317) 815-9943, ext 230. Phil will travel to your location to provide screening training to groups of 15 or more. Visit [www.pbeye.org](http://www.pbeye.org) for upcoming training sessions or more information.





The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) is adding new ways for their clients to apply for and manage public assistance benefits (cash assistance, food stamps and Medicaid/Hoosier Healthwise). As part of this new system, FSSA has a new network of social service providers and community agencies (Voluntary Community Assistance Network - V-CAN). This network will receive information, training and support about how these changes can benefit their clients.

The new ways to apply for and manage benefits will include an Internet application and toll-free line. Training is coming up (starting Nov. 8!) in the southern and western parts of the state. This is a great opportunity for your organization to learn more about how to help low-income families! For more information and to sign up for training, go to

[www.in.gov/fssa](http://www.in.gov/fssa), click on "Eligibility Modernization" and "Communications," and fill out the "Region 2 (South/West) V-CAN Training Registration." If you have questions, please e-mail [vcan@us.ibm.com](mailto:vcan@us.ibm.com).

### Community Health Assessment to Offer Free Screenings

Free health screenings, health education and community resources will be available at the Community Health Assessment from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13 at Indianapolis Metropolitan High School, 1635 W. Michigan Street.

Presented in collaboration with Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana, Inc. and the Family Strengthening Coalition, the event offers free blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose and body composition checks, dental and cancer screenings and eye exams administered by health care professionals.

There will be free healthy snacks, tips on eating well and assistance to stop smoking, interactive exercise and fitness demonstrations for the entire family plus free child ID kits. Flu shots will be available to the public for \$15.

Indianapolis Metropolitan High School is a public charter school operated by Goodwill Education Initiatives, Inc., and is located west of IUPUI at Goodwill's headquarters, which is accessible by public transportation.

For more information about the Community Health Assessment, contact Nick Reich, (317) 524-4024 or [nick.reich@IndianapolisMet.org](mailto:nick.reich@IndianapolisMet.org).



The Lawrence Township School Foundation (LTSF) announces the first annual "Dads & Lads Lock-In for Learning", on Friday, November 9th at Sports of All Sorts (6002 Sunnyside Road). This event is for fathers/guardians and sons in grades 3-8.

The purpose of the event is to provide a fun and memorable evening of father/son sports activities and to raise funds for Foundation programs. Registration, which is \$30 per person, is currently being accepted online at [www.msdltf.org](http://www.msdltf.org) through November 7th. The event will run from 8:00 p.m. on Friday night until 7:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.

The mission of the Lawrence Township School Foundation (LTSF) is to encourage and support creativity, innovation and excellence that enhance the educational community of the Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township.

For more information, please check out [www.msdltf.org](http://www.msdltf.org) or call 317-423-8300.